IN THE ABSTRACT

Please cancel the abstract currently on file and replace it with the following:

--A production apparatus for producing a crystal includes a crucible divided into a plurality of stages, each stage containing a crystal precursor material, and a heater arranged to heat the crucible. The crucible has formed therein a degassing hole in a side wall portion thereof for discharging an impurity gas produced when refining the crystal precursor material by adding a scavenger thereto, and a lower portion of a first stage of the plurality of stages is positioned to cover an upper edge of a wall portion of a second stage of the plurality of stages. The overall height of the plurality of stages is 10mm to 50mm, the degassing hole has a diameter of 1mm to 5 mm, and a fluoride crystal is formed from the crystal precursor material.--

H1

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 4 and ending on page 11, line 9 with the following replacement paragraph A version marked up to show the changes to this paragraph is submitted herewith.

--When the height of the molten material becomes 50 mm or less, impurities which easily remain inside the crystal, such as a metal element of a scavenger and oxygen, can efficiently be discharged to the outside so that the impurity concentration in the crystal can be further lowered.--

H2